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Book and Job Printing

EXECUTED WITH NEATNESS AND DESPATCH.

POETRY.

From the Saturday Courier.
WINDS OF WINTER.

BY S. NUTT.

Alone, in drooping pride,
Unrobed of Summer green,
When Autumn's balmy gales had died
The leafless boughs between:
In shivering guise the forest waved,
On nodding mountain brows,
As the stormy winds of winter raved
Among the trembling boughs;
And mournful swept their death-like dirge;
O'er the faded leafless firs,
As restless still they roved at will,
In wild and wintry glee.

The lily bloom'd no more—
The rose had shed its hue;
And Flora for an Indian shore,
Sought flow'ry vales anew.
When round a lowly cottage door,
Where babies in summer played,
In inter'd robes the orphans poor,
Now cold and hungry strayed.
The orphan's garb and cheerless home,
The cold winds enter'd free,
As restless still they roved at will,
In wild and wintry glee.

The widow's mother's moan,
Low through the chimney wall,
Commingle with the tempest's groan;
As she for aid did call.
To brother man, while sickness hung
Deep burning o'er her head,
And shrieking orphans, hunger-stung,
Were clinging round her bed;
But man then din'd in lordly halls,
Nor tempests heeded he,
As restless still they roved at will,
In wild and wintry glee.

Her sister—woman fair,
With gems and jewels hung;
Found in the busy dance her care,
And light her laugh then rung.
Where costly viands sparkled clear,
Behind the gilded door,
No widow's sigh might reach her ear,
Or wail of orphan poor.
Love, mirth, and feast were all her care—
Cold blasts ne'er heeded she,
As restless still they roved at will,
In wild and wintry glee.

Again the ice-winds sped
Keen o'er the shivering earth,
And circling round the low straw bed,
Chilled the fireless hearth,
In misery's lowest lair,
While shrieks of orphans, hunger-prest,
Rung wild upon the air!
But men and maidens feasted on!
From ice-wind's tempest free,
As restless still they roved at will,
In wild and wintry glee.

Pause, pause, ye thoughtless prond,
In splendour-gilded homes;
List, list how death on Winter-cloud,
Rules thundering o'er your dome,
Yours the bright fire and cushioned seat,
And wine in joyous halls;
But, oh! think how the tempest beat,
Through Want's low ragged walls,
Hark to the dying orphan's groan,
Where icy-blows sweep free,
As restless still they roved at will,
In wild and wintry glee.

Newark, Del. 1845.

MISCELLANEOUS.

From the May-Flower.

ANNETTE, THE HEIRESS;
OR, THE FORAGING PARTY.

A TALE OF THE LAST WAR.

BY J. H. INGRAHAM.

Edward Ogilvie was the youngest of five brave brothers who served their country, both in the field, and on the sea, during the last war. Their mother was a widow of comfortable estate, who dwelt in a pleasant homestead facing the waters of Boston Bay. Large elms overshadowed the roof and broad fields interspersed with woodlands extending away on the right, till they met the fields and woodlands of the property of Squire Harwood, a man of substantial wealth, who had an only daughter of eighteen, who was a belle and heiress. The road from the homestead of widow Ogilvie wound along the sea-beach, with a hedge and green fields on one side, bordering it, and the white sparkling sand and blue waves on the other. The distance between the two homesteads was a little less than a mile, and about half way between was a bridge spanning a small rivulet, that had a course of half dozen miles from the interior.

It was about an hour before sunset, near the close of the war, in the month of October, that Edward Ogilvie was crossing this bridge on his way to visit Annette Harwood, the beauty and heiress; for the charms of the rustic belle had taken captive the young student's heart; and every evening for the last month he had directed his walk in the direction of her abode. Edward

was in his twentieth year, of good figure, of pleasing but somewhat diffident address, and with that calm, meditative aspect peculiar to students; for such was this young man. Annette was not loved without giving her heart in return, but the Squire, although he had observed with apparent indifference this mutual attachment, had a mind of his own touching the matter so interesting to the lovers themselves.

Edward had got upon the bridge, where he used to linger for a few moments as he crossed, to catch the flowing sea rush through the arch up the creek, and gaze upon its expanse of waters; or from the opposite side of the bridge contemplate the dark inlet, as it lost itself amid overhanging trees in a dell where stood a mill belonging equally to the two manors.

Edward paused a moment on the bridge to watch the effect of the purple light of the western sky reflecting upon its mottled bosom, when his eyes were arrested by a sail in the offing. He continued to watch it for a few moments, and then went on his way, from time to time glancing seaward, to admit the stately and slow motion of its trackless passage over the ocean. As he came near the dwelling of Squire Harwood, he discovered that her course was toward the land; but seeing Annette on the piazza, he forgot the vessel to hasten to her. The meeting was more like that of brother and sister, than that of lovers; that is, it was affectionate, frank, and free from restraint.

"We shall have a lovely evening to walk, the sunset will be so pleasant," said Annette, whom we would stop to describe, if our pen could do justice to her beauty. We will, however, say that the color of her eyes was a deep sea blue, and they sparkled like waves glancing in the sunlight; her lips had doubtless once been a pair of cherries; stolen from Cupid, to make her mouth the prettiest mouth imaginable. Her smile was sunshine, her form was sylphlike and blooming with youth, her voice full of music, and every motion as graceful as a fawn's. She was good humored, intelligent, and suitably grave, and was just the maiden to ensnare a student like Edward Ogilvie.

"Yes, Annette, the air is rich with golden tints and soft as a June evening. Suppose we ramble towards the village, and listen to the martial music of the soldiers as they march from the ground!"

"I should like it of all things. My father says our company, the Blues, made the finest show of any on parade to-day."

"He was at the review, then?"

"Yes, and acted as a major colonel!" believed.

At any rate he has just come home, on horseback in full uniform, with a sword by his side; and looks as brave, I tell him, as a crusading knight. He told me to hold my little tongue, and so I have for full a minute."

"And the longest time you ever held it Netty," said the squire, coming out of the house, his champagne in his hand, and his sword unbelted and beneath his arm. "Ah, Edward, good evening, man. Fine day we have had for the general muster."

"Yes, sir. Are the troops dismissed yet?"

"We were going up the road to the hill-top to listen to the music, father," said Annette.

"No—no! stay at home, child," said the Squire, gravely. "I suppose Master Edward has asked you to go?"

"I did, Mr. Howard; I thought the walk might be pleasant."

"Humph! Look you, young man," said Squire Harwood, bluntly, "military music is not made for the amusement of studious youths after idling the day over musty books, nor merely to please a faddist's ear. It is the voice of the spirit of liberty, and calls the young men of the land to fight her battles, and the maidens to make them clothes to fight in, and colors to fight under. You, I see, like my Annette, and so far as I can see, she likes you back again. Now, Edward, you are a very correct, excellent young man, that I know; but you see I haven't got a daughter, and I don't mean she shall marry any man who, excellent as he may be, through all this war has never drawn a blade nor pulled a trigger for the love of his country. Your brothers are all brave fellows and serving her with honor. You stay at home to pore over dictionaries in the day time, and come to make love to Annette by moonlight. Now, I have nothing against you, as I said before; but I've made up my mind Annette shall not marry a man that hasn't had a hand in this war against the English. If you are of a mind to follow the example of your brother, and let me hear something you have done that I can tell my neighbors of with pride, then you shall have my consent to marry Annette; for her's I dare say, she's given you long ago. A text you know, is as good as a sermon, Master Edward. So, if you want my daughter, you know how she is to be won."

"Thus speaking, Squire Harwood took Annette under his arm, and bowing very kindly, but firmly, to the astonished lover, disappeared within the house."

Edward remained standing a moment upon the spot where they had left him, as if trying to realize what had passed. He then turned away in silence, his cheek burning with the glow of a mortified and sensitive spirit.

"The profession which he had in view was that of a clergyman; and although not deficient in courage or patriotism, he had suffered his brothers to take the field and the deck while he remained at home. The words of the Squire sunk deep into his spirits. He walked slowly homeward, very sad, and filled with the painful idea of losing her who was so very dear to him. As he came upon the bridge he had made up his mind. He stopped and, speaking aloud, said, firmly—

"If Annette is only to be won by my taking

up arms, I will enlist to-morrow."

He then

ble to serve one's country. I am not a clergyman, and I can therefore act freely. This is the last day the reproach shall be thrown upon me, that I remain delaying at home while my brothers are abroad exposing their bosoms to the weapons of their country's foes!"

While he was speaking, he saw that the ship, which he had noticed half an hour before at a distance, had drawn close in with the land, and had dropped anchor about a mile abreast of the inlet. The sun had already set, yet he could see her distinctly, and discovered that she was a merchant ship. He remained for some time watching her, and listening to the distant drum of a detachment of the militia of the neighborhood, which was retreating homeward from their muster-field. The sound of the drum died away in the distance beyond the mill, and the low dashing of the waves against the bridge fell upon his ear.

"Well, to-morrow I shall march to the measure of file and drum! I will enlist as a private, and make my way up."

He paused, thinking he had heard the sound of oars. He looked seaward, but the twilight rendered objects too obscure to detect any boat approaching. Yet each moment the fall of the sweeps came nearer and nearer, and he was soon enabled to discover a barge pulling in towards the bridge. His position, in the shadow of an overhanging limb, shielded him from observation. He saw that the boat contained at least twenty men. It moved slower as it drew near land, and a person standing up in the stern directed its landing. It struck the shore close by the bridge, within the inlet, and almost beneath where he stood the party embarked. He now saw that half of them were seamen and half mariners, and that all were armed. They were commanded by a young midshipman, who, forming them into a column, marched them up the bank and on the bridge. Edward, as they came near, drew himself up into the limb, and was concealed by its foliage, while he observed with surprise their stealthy movements.

"How far is the grist mill hence, Sambo?" asked the young officer, looking about him after all his party had got on the bridge, save a man to guard the boat.

"The grist mill ain't about a third of a mile up de creek, and de tother one, where de most grist be, is a mile. There is a toot path along de creek shore," answered a man in a true Yankee negro intonation, but speaking with minimalist reluctance.

"If you deceive me, darkie, you are a dead man!" said the midshipman, very positively.

"I knows dat well 'nuf, so I tells you de truth! I hates to mighty! I know all 'bout dis place, coz I used to lib here once. Oder dar is whar Squire Harwood lives and ober dat way am widder Ogilvie, an' I wish dis nigger was safe in dar ditchen! I nebber go cook again in Boston ship nor no oder one 'afer bein' taken prisoner by de British, as I am dis time. I wish I may nebber see blue water agin, if I gets my liberty dis time!"

"Hush with your noise! Each of you march forward in silence. We are in an enemy's country, and must be cautious."

"Yes, I guess you better," said the negro sulkily. "If de country people know'd you was skulking, here ater corn, flour, and sheep, and oxted, to keep from starving to death, as we have been a week past, they be 'round as thick as snakes in de grass, and debble one ob you get back to your boat! So, I advise you, massa to keep sharp eyes to windward. Guy! how mad all o'em be! In de morning, when dey find out you land here in a prize ship, wid only two guns aboard and thirty men, and carry off clear to Halifax, de grist from dese two mills, and sheep and turkeys, too, for de lieutenant's dinner! Dey swear den, and I expect de Squire swear enuf for a whole regiment."

"Forward!" cried the midshipman. "Silence all of you, and advance swiftly and with caution!"

"They filed off the bridge, and taking the path along which the negro led the way, they were soon lost to the sight of Edward in the gloom of the overhanging banks of the creek."

"These men, then, are English," he reflected, as he let himself down upon the bridge; the vessel is a prize bound to Halifax, with a midshipman and two and thirty men—twenty here and ten remaining on board! My course is decided on. It will take them an hour to visit both mills. Half of that time is enough for me. I shall know where to seek the militia party with the file and drum; if I can find twenty brave men among them to put themselves under my orders, I will win Annette before to-morrow's sun rise!"

As he spoke he glided noiselessly away from the bridge, and after getting beyond hearing of the man in the boat, he flew like the wind across a meadow in the direction of what was called the "Cross Road," a cluster of village habitations, the principal of which was a large country tavern where he knew he should find assembled many of the men who had borne a part in the review in the neighboring town. The inn was about half a mile distant from the bridge, on a road in the rear of Squire Harwood's farm, across which, leaping fence after fence, Edward Ogilvie was now flying with speed of a deer.

The tavern as he came near, was so quiet that he feared the men he sought had left for their respective homes. Seeing a light in the tap room, however, he hoped to find some persons assembled there. Through the windows, as he approached the door, he saw that the bar-room was nearly filled with men. The next moment he was in their presence. His manner was divested of all excitement, and a spirit calm and resolute beamed from his eyes. There was at least twenty men in the apartment, most of them with knapsacks and bayonet belts upon their persons, and some leaning upon their muskets; while the

guns of the rest of the party were staked in a corner of the room. Some of them were smoking, others drinking, and all listening to a long yarn, told by one of the party, of certain exploits by himself, personally performed at the battle of Plattsburgh.

On Edward's entrance, the landlord first noticed him.

"Ah—so you can enter a bar-room on a training day, Mr. Ogilvie, glad to see you. Though you are not much of a fighting man, I like you for your brother's sake, who are all serving their country. But there must be parsons as well as soldiers, and every man to his trade."

All eyes were now turned upon the young man. Advancing a little way into the floor, he said, with a firm tone,

"I am glad to find so many of you here assembled. If the brave men among you are willing to place yourselves under my direction for the next two hours, I will lead you where you can win both honor and prize money."

"Spoken with a spirit," exclaimed several. "That rings like your brother George!" said the landlord.

"But what is it?" cried all, crowding round.

"Will you be led by me? There is danger to life and person; but I ask no man to follow where I fear to lead!"

"The man has courage if he is a student," remarked one to the other with surprise.

"What have you discovered?" demanded one of the most forward men.

"Will you follow me and obey my orders, if I can place in your hands, as prisoners, twenty English seamen and an officer, who have just landed?"

"Yes—lead on!" was the general response, and the men commenced arming themselves.

Briefly Edward told them what he had witnessed. All was enthusiasm. Among the militia men was a young man whom he despatched to Squire Harwood. In twenty minutes the Squire was on the spot, mounted on his horse, and armed with his broad sword. Five of his farm men had followed him. Others came in from all sides.

Edward with great coolness and skill, took up on himself the conduct of the whole affair. He suggested that the Squire, with thirty men should cut off the retreat of the foraging party, and take them prisoners.

"And what will you do?" asked the Squire. "You are not going to keep out of danger?"

"No sir! If there are twenty brave men here who will volunteer to go with me, I will embark for the ship. In the night we can board her without difficulty, as we shall be taken for their own crew. Once on board, the ship will easily fall into our hands, for the most part of her prize crew are ashore. Who will volunteer?"

This bold proposition at first startled the boldest man among them. But in less than five minutes twenty of them had volunteered; and in two minutes more he was at their head leading them to the bridge, while the Squire, with his detachment, proceeded to cut off the retreat of the enemy.

The result was in all respects successful. The English party at the mill surrendered after a brief skirmish, and were taken to the tavern as prisoners within an hour after the Squire had left it. Edward and his brave band boarded the ship without suspicion, and after a short conflict, he was master of her. He took her, by the aid of the released American crew into Boston harbor the next day; and we need not add that within less than three months, he was rewarded with the hand of the beautiful Annette Harwood.

SCARED BY A RED HOT GRID IRON.

INITIATION FRUSTRATED.—A number of years since, when our city was new, and there were no splendid halls, the Masonic body held its sittings in the upper story of a well known public house, kept by Major S.—, who was himself a high Mason. As is the case now, many new members were offering, or asking admission into the fellowship and mysteries of this ancient body of brethren. Why it is, we cannot say, but there are as many stories afloat among the people, and there ever have been, that the novitiates is introduced to a seat on a red hot grid iron!—that in making a man a free and accepted brother, he must undergo a great many interesting ceremonies, besides being shown the grips and signals of the order.

On one occasion—and it must be some forty years ago, according to our information of many of the particulars—the lodge met, and a young, good-looking clerk of one of the stores came into the lower rooms of the building, it having been arranged to initiate him that evening. He was ordered to remain below until all was ready for his reception. The time dragging, and his mind conjuring up what he was about to meet, he commenced walking backwards and forwards through the passage leading to the stairway of the lodge. On the right of the passageway was the kitchen, in which, and directly before him, as he passed the door, was a large fire burning, it being in that season of the year requiring artificial heat for bodily comfort.

It so happened that the Major kept an Irish servant girl, and she was the only person left with the stranger in that part of the house. Betty had heard of the hot grid iron operation of masons, and knowing that the young clerk was to be admitted that night, thought she would have a bit of innocent fun. She took a large grid iron, on which she had broiled many a steak, and placed it on the fire, in full view

of the young expectant of mysterious grips—stirred up the blazing fire, and retired to watch the result. Clerkly continued to pass and repass the door, and ever and anon Betty saw he cast a wistful glance at the fire place! The iron was growing redder and redder every time he passed. He shook his head—a sigh escaped him! Betty was in ecstasies. To place her victim in still deeper agony, she fixed a small screen, taken from another room, between the fire and the door leading to the hall as if to hide from his view the fearful instrument of honorable torture. As the cunning jade was retreating, the young man, with a wink of the eye, a beckon of the hand, and a "come here" of the head, succeeded in arresting her progress a moment.

"A-a-a—what is that grid iron on the fire for now?" said he, "my good girl will you tell me?"

"Oh! sir! But I really don't like to. It would'n't be perlitte."

"Oh! never mind! I'm exceedingly anxious to know."

"Why—a-there's a Lodge up stairs to-night. And—a—"

"Well, well; I know there is a lodge up stairs to-night. But what is that iron in the fire for? Tell me good girl, I pray you. Tell me quickly."

"Why—why—I—"

"Speak out! Do! I'm aching to hear!"

"Why the Major told me as how they're going to make a Mason to-night, an' that's all I know about it."

That was enough. The old told tale was true! That grid iron was for him! A change came over him in a moment. He would not be burned with as hot an iron as that, any how. The putting on of hat and cloak was a momentary affair; he sought the street, when legs, if ever, did their duty.

Soon after, the brothers having got all things ready, the Major came down for his young friend, but not Betty, who seeing the result of her fun, and fearing the consequences, came toward her master sobbing and crying in a most affected manner.

The Major soon learned the story of the young man's flight, also the cause, and answered, "Never mind, Betty; if he's such a fool as that, we don't want him."

One would naturally suppose that the Lodge had a fine laugh over that good joke upon the return of the Major. The inevitable conclusion is, that the young clerk never offered himself again as a candidate for admission into the mysteries of the free and accepted Masons, and a seat on their rascally red hot Grid Iron.

A CHEAP BREAKFAST.

A son of Erin at Schenectady, heard the breakfast bell on board a canal boat just starting out for Buffalo. The fragrance of the viands induced him to go aboard.

"Sure, Captain derr, an' what'll ye ax a poor innan for travellin on yer illegant swan of a boat?"

"Only a cent and a half a mile and found," replied the captain.

"And is it the victuals ye mean to find sure?"

"Yes. And if your going along go down to breakfast."

Pat did not want to be told a second time, but having descended into the cabin and made a hearty meal, he came again on deck and requested that the boat might be stopped.

"What do you want to stop for?" inquired the Captain.

"How far have we come just?" inquired Pat.

"Only a little over a mile."

Pat thereupon handed the captain two cents and coolly told him that he believed he would not go any farther with him, and Judy would wait her breakfast, not knowing that he had breakfasted out.

The joke was so good that the captain took the two cents, ordered the boat to be stopped, helped Pat ashore, and told him that if he should ever have occasion to travel that way again he should be most happy to carry him.

SECURITY EXTRAORDINARY.—An old money-grub, in the city of Glasgow, who discounted bills for his friends, on "promise to pay," and who held good back security, in the shape of indorsements, was applied to by a friend to cash a small bill for him, when old Discount required additional security. The friend, who little expected a request of the kind, flew into a violent rage.

"Security, sir! I'll give you the d— for security!"

"Well then," exclaimed the bill-discounter, "just bring him forward; and as I ne'er ha' seen the gentleman, petra a decent man to say that it's really him, and ye'll get the siller."

A poor fellow, who was being carried to execution, had a reprieve just as he came to the gallows, and was carried back by a thief's officer, who told him he was a happy fellow, and asked him if he knew nothing of the reprieve beforehand? "No," replied the poor fellow, "nor thought any more of it than I did of my dying day!"

MONDAY, DEC. 15.

IN SENATE. Gen. Cass called up the resolutions submitted by himself a few days since, relative to an inquiry into the condition of the national defenses, including the navy, army, forts, militia, &c.

General Cass, in advocating the adoption of the resolutions, considered it probable that Great Britain would declare war upon the United States as soon as the year's notice had expired, or that it would necessarily arise from collisions between the American and British settlers in Oregon. He thought that both parties were so fully committed that they could not recede from their present positions. He spoke of the power and arrogance of England, her grasping ambition, her jealousy of our progress, her interposition in the Texas affair, and her charge at our movement for the possession of the California. He expressed a hope that the Congress would soon be ours. He said the President had discharged his duty patriotically, fearlessly. Let us now discharge ours—not by words merely, but by deeds. The best support we can give him is to respond to his declarations by our actions. It is my firm conviction, and I do not hesitate to say publicly to you, that the best, if not the only hope that we have of avoiding a war with England, is by exhibiting a public and united determination to prosecute it, should it come, with all the energies that God has given us, and by an instant and serious consideration of the preparations necessary for such offensive and defensive measures as may be required, and as prompt an adoption of them as a just regard to circumstances may demand.

Mr. Mangum was sorry that this subject had been brought forward so early, and before the President had called our attention to it. He had confidence in the President as a man of honor, and approved of his course, thus far, in the Oregon negotiation. Could we not trust him therefore, to warn us of the danger of war and the necessity for preparation? Was it necessary to make an alarm and to hasten the action of the Senate in regard to such a subject? He did not believe that Great Britain would go to war for the acquisition of Oregon merely. That would be a mere pretext. He knew there was to be a struggle between free principles and monarchical principles of government. The powers of Europe were jealous of our progress. When that strife came, it would shake all Christendom to the centre. Thrones and dynasties would fall before it. He adverted to the interposition of foreign powers in the Texas affair, and said no one was more incensed at it than he was. If we were to acquire California, he trusted that no unnecessary parade would be made about it, and he thought it should be discussed in secret session. He believed this question would be settled without war; but, if not, every American would be found at his post, and, as he believed, half of Europe in a revolt!

He wished the resolutions to lie on the table, for the present; but the course being advised to the opinion of the body, he withdrew it.

Mr. Allen urged that to lay these resolutions on the table would paralyze the spirit of the country; it would be a proof that we could not prepare for defence. We never could be prepared till danger came near, for we had no standing army. We relied on our militia, and it was natural to inquire into the condition. In 1836, before Mr. Van Buren had asked for anything, we made him a dictator, giving him the power to employ the navy, and army, to borrow money, and to raise fifty thousand volunteers. We did this upon his statement of the condition of the negotiation as to the North Eastern boundary. Why should we not now, upon a similar statement, proceed at least so far as to inquire into the condition of our defenses. He had heard with satisfaction the declaration of the Senator that, when war was declared, all would rally around their country. This had not always been the case, but perhaps politicians had been schooled, by the events of the last war, into a display of mere patriotism.

Mr. Archer, while deprecating from the resolutions as ill-timed, and tending unnecessary to alarm the country, and perhaps to drive the two nations into war which by prudence, might be avoided, said he would take this occasion to say that he had heartily approved of the President's Message on the Oregon question. He highly approved of the tone he assumed on that question, and it had increased his respect for the Chief Magistrate. No one could suppose that these resolutions would produce a decided effect on the policy of Great Britain; and the object of their passage was to show that some individuals on this floor have an exclusive claim to patriotism.

Gen. Cass rose to reply; but at this moment a message was received, communicating the House resolutions relative to the decease of Mr. Peyton, member from Tennessee.

Mr. Jarnagin passed a eulogy on the character of the deceased, and the Senate adjourned.

IN HOUSE. Mr. Rockwell, of Conn., made some remarks upon the course of the House in regard to the resolutions of the Legislature of Connecticut, which the House refused, the other day, to print. Mr. R. said the Texas Constitution did not conform with the conditions of the Joint Resolutions of the House for the annexation of Texas. The provision in reference to population were not complied with. The Missouri compromise was not adhered to. He hoped the House would pursue a more liberal course on this subject, especially as to the opinions expressed by sovereign States.

The resolutions referred to were ordered to be printed. Printing had before been refused.

Mr. Adams offered some resolutions from the Legislature of Massachusetts, condemning South Carolina resolutions, relative to Mr. Hoar's mission, and they were laid on the table.

Mr. Hamlin presented the petition of Eli West for a pension.

Mr. McCrater moved that the papers, with the petition of John Forrest, for the relief for transporting the mail of the United States, be taken from the files of the last session and referred to the Committee of Post Offices and Post Roads. Also, that the petition of John Farnham and James Maine, several praying for pensions be taken from the files of the last session and referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

He also presented the petition of Charles Holden, and 37 others, and moved its reference to the Committee on Commerce. Another petition of Joseph Pulcifer for a pension.

TUESDAY, DEC. 16.

IN SENATE. Mr. Allen gave notice that he would to-morrow introduce a joint resolution, advising the President of the U. S. to give immediate notice to Great Britain of the termination of the joint occupancy of the Oregon territory.

Gen. Cass's resolutions were taken up. Mr. Niles opened the debate. He approved of being prepared to defend ourselves in any emergency, and expressed the hope that we should exhibit to the world that our policy was peace, but that we were determined not to yield our just rights even at the hazard of war.

Mr. Crittenden followed. He saw nothing objectionable in the resolutions. The preparations contemplated, might be properly taken in time of peace, and with still greater propriety under the remotest chance of war. He alluded to the remarks of Gen. Cass, as calculated to interest deeply the people, and disturb the business of the country; and he felt assured that the Senator from Michigan had not unduly, nor without proper deliberation made them. This government could not recede, and unless Great Britain recedes we must have war. And when did Great Britain recede? And now that the President recommended that notice be given to terminate the joint occupancy, and the gentleman from Michigan had further said that if that notice were given war was inevitable. They were then, according to that gentleman, standing on the verge of war, and if so, they should put on their whole armor at once.

Mr. Cass explained that he did not state that war was inevitable, but that if England persisted in her claim, after the year's notice was given, war would follow—which Mr. Crittenden thought did not change the position. Mr. Cass then added—If the gentleman asks my opinion, I give it. I believe that war is almost inevitable. But I stated yesterday what I now state, not that war is absolutely inevitable, but that if after the year's notice had been given, Great Britain persisted, then war would be inevitable.

Mr. Webster regretted the introduction of these resolutions, accompanied as they had been with remarks which appeared to give something more of an exigency than was necessary, and might create alarm, and injure the pursuits of life. He pointed out many evils, of great magnitude, which would occur to our commerce by creating alarm, and then proceeded to say that he thought it was impossible for him to be mistaken in the opinion that the President of the United States did not expect war—at least immediately.

Mr. Sevier commented on the cautions, which were so freely given, whenever they approached the subject of Oregon, to "beware take heed lest they provoked a war." He said he could hardly find words to express the astonishment with which he had listened to admonitions, and appeals, and solemn invocations all put forth on the ground that we cannot undertake any measure for the defence of the country, without provoking the hostility of an opposing foreign power. He referred to the questioning which the gentleman from Michigan had undergone, (by Mr. Crittenden) and then gave his solemn conviction that war will come.

Mr. Berrien took the same views as those of his whig friends.

Mr. Allen further defended the resolutions. Messrs. Breese and Woodbury also spoke at much length in favor of the resolutions.

The question was then taken, and the resolutions of Mr. Cass passed by a unanimous vote—48 members being present.

IN HOUSE. The joint resolutions (offered by Mr. Douglass) to admit Texas into the union, came up in order. The question was on their engrossment for a third reading. Mr. Herrick moved to lay them on the table, which was negatived by a vote of 142 yeas to 52 nays. The engrossment was ordered under the operation of the previous question. On the third reading, Mr. Hunt of New York, and some others, made some brief remarks. That disposition of the question was on the passage of the resolutions, on which Mr. Rockwell of Massachusetts, made a long speech, and then moved to recommit the resolutions with instructions to the committee to insert a provision to prohibit slavery or involuntary servitude except for crime. Various points of order and incidental questions arose, and occupied some time, but ultimately by the aid of the previous question the final vote was taken, and the resolutions were passed by a vote of yeas 141, nays 56. [The whole delegation from this State except Mr. Severance, voting in the affirmative.]

WEDNESDAY DEC. 17.

Mr. Allen, having been subpoenaed to attend the criminal court as witness in the McNulty case, asked leave before he went, to introduce the joint resolutions for giving immediate notice to Great Britain of the termination of the joint occupancy of Oregon. Mr. Haywood objected, and Mr. A. withdrew the bill.

The Senate elected Messrs. Ritchie & Heiss printers for that body. The ballot stood—Messrs. Ritchie & Heiss 27, Mr. Ritchie 1, Messrs. Gales & Seaton 20, and Jefferson & Co. 1.

IN HOUSE. The House was occupied for most of the day in a debate upon Native Americanism growing out of a motion made by Mr. Winthrop to refer to the committee on the Judiciary the resolutions of the Legislature of Massachusetts, in favor of a modification of the Naturalization Laws, and without taking any question, the House adjourned. Various resolutions against the annexation of Texas as a slave State, were presented by Messrs. Sawtelle and Dunlap.

THURSDAY DEC. 18.

IN SENATE. Mr. Allen introduced the following resolutions for the termination of the joint occupancy of Oregon, which was read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

That the President of the United States be and he is hereby advised to give, forthwith, notice to Great Britain that the government of the United

States will, in virtue of the second article of the convention of the 6th August, A. D. 1827, between the United States and Great Britain, relative to the joint occupancy of Oregon Territory, and after the expiration of twelve months from the day on which such notice shall have been received by the Government of Great Britain, annul and abrogate that convention.

Mr. Fairfield presented the petition of Thomas McLellan and 25 others, asking remuneration for French apothecaries prior to 1860. Mr. F. said he believed it had been usually, though not uniformly, the case to refer similar petitions to the Committee on Foreign Relations. In this instance, however, and under the circumstances, he felt constrained, by a sense of duty to the petitioners, and in obedience to the spirit of thrice-repeated instructions from the legislature of Maine, to move a reference to a select committee. He did not do this (and he knew his friend from Ohio, the distinguished chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations, would so understand it), form any want of respect for that committee, or any member of it. On most questions, he would rely with great confidence on the opinions of that committee. In this case, however, it is well understood that the opinions of a majority of the committee are adverse to these claims. To refer the petition, then, to this committee, would be to bury the whole subject for the present session, at least. This, he apprehended, would not be in accordance with the general course of the Senate. Without any definite rule upon the subject, it has always been regarded as proper to place a proposition in the hands of its friends, with a view to the initiatory proceedings. Unless such a course be pursued here, the subject cannot be presented to the Senate for its consideration and judgment. Even the opponents of the claims, those who had made up their minds to go against them at all events, he hoped would not oppose the reference to a select committee, inasmuch as they would not otherwise be fairly presented for our consideration. In this initiatory step, there is nothing binding. No senator commits himself. The claims are merely put in a position for discussion—and of this, surely no one, either friends or opponents of the claims, should be afraid.

It appeared to him, (Mr. F.) also, that a consideration for the reference of claims to a select committee might be found in their magnitude and importance, as well as in their history. It will be remembered, also, that no less than fourteen reports have emanated from respectable committees of both branches of Congress in favor of these claims, and that eight or nine of the legislatures of the sovereign States of the Union have instructed their Senators to support them. Under all the circumstances he entertained the hope, that there would be no opposition to the reference asked.

Mr. F. said he had delayed many days making this motion, in the hope that it would be made by some older and more distinguished member of the Senate. But knowing how often the favorable action of Congress had been prevented by delay, he had concluded to make the motion himself—at the same time expressed the hope that in the composition of the committee, should the Senate be kind enough to grant one, his (Mr. F.'s) name would be omitted. This he would esteem as a favor.

Mr. F.'s motion finally prevailed, and Messrs. Fairfield, Clayton, Dix, Mangum and Surgeon were appointed this committee. [From this committee a favorable report may be expected.]

Mr. Evans presented a resolution in favor of paying the claims of David Shaw and Solomon T. Corser, formerly contractors for carrying the mail between Portland and Augusta; referred to committee on Post Offices and Post Roads.

Mr. Atchinson, of Missouri, offered a series of resolutions referring to the six appropriate committees, to inquire into the expediency of establishing a territorial government for Oregon, of establishing block houses, stockade forts and military posts from the frontiers of Missouri to the mouth of the Columbia, and raising a corps of mounted riflemen to assist emigrants and protect our citizens in the territory; of granting land to actual settlers; of organizing a militia of the territory; of establishing Indian agencies in, and extending our Indian laws to the territory, as far as applicable; and establishing a mail route to Oregon city, which he over one day under the rule.

IN HOUSE. Mr. Scammon (of Me.) presented the petition of Adam McCulloch, praying for an appropriation to pay him for Goat Island, now occupied by the United States for a light house. Also the petition of Daniel Grant and others, owners of the fishing schooner James and Henry, praying for the allowance of fishing bounty. Also the petition of S. H. Gould, praying Congress to refund \$200, and interest, which he had paid for public land, which land had since been sold, and a patent refused. Also the memorial of citizens of the State of Maine, praying for the erection of a light-house at the entrance of Kennebec harbor. Also the petition of citizens of Maine for a dry-dock at Kittery.

The debate on the resolutions of the Legislature of Massachusetts, which involved the question of Nativeism, again occupied the entire day and without taking any question the House adjourned.

We say, then, frankly, we suppose Texas will be annexed, and the blessings of slavery extended over a territory one-third as large as the present Union. [Unison.]

How is slavery to be extended by annexation? Are the free people of Texas to be enslaved? No. Will the present slaves of Texas be any more enslaved? No. If some of the slaves now in the States be transferred to Texas, will there be any more slavery in the aggregate than at present? No. Why, then, so much palaver about the extension of slavery? The whigs do love the niggers so!—so they would keep them all in the country, and not give them the chance every poor rogue has, of going to Texas. [Seco Dem.]

Complimentary.—When the choice of seats in the house by each member was drawn, the "old man eloquent" was permitted to enjoy his station which he had occupied many years, a favorite and conspicuous position in the hall.

Maine Respected. It is gratifying to perceive, that Maine is respected in the National Congress, under Mr. Polk's administration, by the appointment of four out of six Democratic members from this State, as Chairman of Committees, viz: On Elections, Mr. Hamlin, of Penobscot; Public Expenditures, Mr. Dunlap of Cumberland; Expenditure Treasury Department, Mr. Scammon, of York; Unfinished Business, Mr. Sawtelle, of Somerset. How was it in the *Hard Cider* Congress of '41, under Harrison's administration? Not a single member from Maine, Whig or Democrat was appointed Chairman of a single committee—but no less than six committees were headed by Massachusetts federalists. Comment is unnecessary. [Argus.]

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, DECEMBER 30, 1845.

HIGH TARIFFS AND THEIR EFFECTS.

Several years since, says the Washington Union, as recently as the year 1832, it will be recollected that very loud complaints were uttered about the "hard times." If the ears of the complainants could have been sealed to the sharp and unwelcome cry of the auctioneer then heard—could they have taken a deliberate observation of the past, and thus have examined into the real origin of the prevailing embarrassments—these must have been traced to the agency of one great cause. It was conceded, of course, by whigs and democrats, (for it was made the ground of reciprocal reproach), that a grievous responsibility, springing from the deplorable state of the country, at the period referred to, had been incurred by the one party or the other. Who had been to blame, was the question upon the lips of all, in those times of universal difficulty and dismay—in those times of painful uncertainty and anxious suspicion—when a common pecuniary distress, every where prevalent, spread over the country a gloom of despair. Mr. Clay, who always sounded the whig clarion at the proper pitch, and whose followers ever chimed in with obedient precision, chanted, at innumerable length, in a speech delivered in Lexington, the old song about the removal of the deposits, the veto of the bank, and the "pocketing" of the land bill by General Jackson. All these acts, he averred, brought upon the country the manifold ills so pathetically and eloquently lamented by the great chief of the panic makers. These topics had previously been standing themes of reproach, and were dilated upon by the opponents of General Jackson with unrelenting malignity. These charges against the administration of General Jackson, have always stood the whigs in stead when pressed by their democratic opponents. No matter what exceptions be made of their own, whether a violation of the constitution, or objectionable for its expediency—no matter to what extent productive of present mischief, or ultimate disaster, their own plans and measures, the standing answer to all reproach has been that our calamities, monetary or otherwise, have originated in the removal of the deposits, and in the destruction of the bank—that bank, the effluvia from whose gigantic remains so long infected the moral atmosphere; and which, in its downfall, exhibited a greater amount of depravity than its most implacable foes ever anticipated or conceived; that bank, which, laid waste, in its dying struggles, a greater number of the hard-earned fortunes of the confiding, the innocent, and the helpless, than can easily be found in the annals of individual ruin.

The sagacious policy—the determined course of Gen. Jackson, saved the public stock in that institution. That this depository of the public funds, inflated by the enormous amounts of the surplus revenue pouring into it perpetually, would have gone on in a course of reckless expansion, its unscrupulous conduct subsequent to the removal of the deposits satisfactorily demonstrates. A contrary supposition is certainly at war with the history of that institution, if not in opposition to the spirit and tendency of banks in the general. Under the most prudent management of the best, the country has had evidence enough of that grasping desire of gain, which instinctively animates all moneyed corporations, throughout the world. Give them the means—and government confidence after all is the greatest source from which these are derived—and they go on under a law of their nature to discount rashly, until some great revulsion discloses the rottenness of their condition. Can any one rationally suppose, that, if the Bank of the U. States had been left in possession of some twenty or thirty millions of the public money, for which it did not pay a stiver of interest, it would not have continued to have loaned with increasing prodigality? The motives which stimulate individuals similarly circumstanced operate with greater force upon banks; for besides the large dividends accruing upon a profuse employment of their capital, real and fictitious, such an institution must ever struggle for a renewal of its charter; and, to accomplish that object, the means of corruption must be copiously employed.

Though indeed many persons have honestly believed that the depriving the bank of the gratuitous use of the national income, and the subsequent distribution of the same funds, among the State institutions, led to the wild speculations, the high prices, which preceded the prostration of credit and enterprise; yet it is certain that matters would have been no better—probably much worse—had that blighted institution, feasting in corruption, been allowed to continue. By feeding the bank with the pabulum of the treasury, the crash might have been delayed; but it would have come finally with even more devastating effect. But were it granted that the removal of the deposits was the immediate cause of the indebtedness and distress through which the country has passed, it is very evident that that was not the ultimate cause. The act of Gen. Jackson was rather the necessary result of something prior; and that something was the tariff of 1828. Under that oppressive measure, since restored in effect, an amount of revenue was poured into the treasury far beyond the national expenditures. To protect a particular class, the treasury was gorged with the plunder taken from all other classes. The millions extorted from the agriculturist and other classes, by the manufacturing interest, were deposited

in the United States Bank to be traded upon. It is at once discovered, therefore, that if a moderate revenue tariff, instead of the enormous one of 1828, had existed, this opportunity, the temptation to exercise the authority for which Gen. Jackson was so much censured, would not have been presented. The public necessities of the times required no such tariff. Besides being burdensome to the last degree to all classes but one—the tariff of 1828 occasioned that superabundance, and the bank became the great beneficiary. It is incontestably certain, then, that the tariff of 1828 has been one of the fruitful sources—one of the fountains of all those troubles which have so often been ascribed to more immediate and more doubtful causes; and yet we find the bitter opponents of that tariff sustaining one as bad, by their patronage of men who upheld the act of 1842.

THE OREGON QUESTION.

The debate in the United States Senate, on the 15th inst., on the resolutions introduced by Mr. Cass, inquiring into the present state of the Navy, Army and Militia of the United States, and recommending a thorough renovation in each arm of defence, was of an interesting character and attracted crowds to the Senate chamber to hear it. We learn from the Union that the general impression from the debate, was, that in case of a rupture with Great Britain, our public counsels would be united in an extraordinary degree. The whig members avow their determination to rally around their country in case of a war; and who would not hail such an exhibition with enthusiasm? Give us union, and we may defy a world in arms. Let both whigs and democrats determine to stand by their government in case of war, and we shall have an honorable peace, or an honorable war.

We cannot shut our eyes to the dangers which threaten the peace of the two countries. But let war come, the responsibility of it will be upon the head of England. We have done everything that becomes a generous and a considerate nation to preserve peace. The course of the President of the United States has been eminently pacific. And now that Great Britain has rejected more than we would have offered, but for the urgent considerations which are disclosed in the President's message, and in the letters of the Secretary of State, we should carry out the measures which the President has so wisely and boldly recommended. We believe that our title to Oregon is clear and unquestionable. We believe that Mr. Buchanan's last letter has placed that title upon the strongest ground. We are happy to see this sentiment making its way far and wide in the public mind. Several of the whig presses are pronouncing his arguments irresistible.—Is Great Britain prepared, in this state of the case, to leave the responsibility of rushing into a war, in the face of the whole civilized world? For ourselves, we repeat, that the issue is in the hands of Great Britain. We undertake to say that the President, whilst he desires an honorable peace, is fearless of all consequences. We hear much of the military preparations of the British government. They cannot sit at the nerves of the American people. A British squadron, if they be so minded as to send one towards our coast, will rouse the pride and nerve the arm of every patriot in the land. Let Great Britain look to it!—We intend no threat. Far from it. That is not our way. Give us peace—but it must be peace with honor.

The spirit of union is displaying its virtues over the whole country. One of the most distinguished citizens of the United States, who was supposed to be indifferent with many others, about Oregon, writes to Washington, after he had seen the message—after he had seen the offer we had made to Great Britain, and the answer we have received, that we should stand up for the rights of the country, even if Oregon were only a barren rock. The issue now rests with England. Every American patriot feels what is now due to our honor; and if the peace of the world is to be disturbed, (and who will pretend to set bounds to the scope and ravages of the war?) we say, and an impartial world will say, let the responsibility rest upon England.

The resolutions of Gen. Cass passed the Senate;—and what is still more, passed unanimously.

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

On Monday, the 23d inst., this great measure was sanctioned by a vote of three-fourths of the Senators of the United States. Texas is annexed, and the unequivocal will of the American people has been obeyed. This is the crowning act, and, we fully believe, will never be regretted by the nation; but will rather shine brighter, as it advances in time, and as the utility and grandeur of the acquisition to the country shall continue to become more and more apparent.

Mr. Webster, true to his instincts and associations, opposed the measure to the last, and crowned his opposition by voting against it,—as was expected by his employers, doubtless, and for his faithfulness they ought to make him a present of another hundred thousand dollars. Other Whig Senators were more magnanimous, acknowledging that the measure should be ratified by the Senate in accordance with the expressed will of the people, and voted accordingly.—The vote stood—Yeas, 31. Nays, 13.

No act of the present Congress will meet with a heartier approval from the people than this.

Judge Garland.—The examination of the melancholy case of Judge Garland of New Orleans, resulted in the issuing of a warrant for his arrest. The N. Orleans papers of the 13th state that he had not then been arrested, and that he could not be found; and he was reported to have made further attempts to end his life by suicide. The public mind was excited by the development which had been made, and great grief expressed at the debasement of one who had held so high a position in the state and nation.

The House of Representatives, says a correspondent of the Argos under date of the 23d inst., spent several hours to-day in the selection of a Chaplain. Finally, romance and sympathy came to the rescue, and a blind Methodist preacher was selected! His name is Melbourne, and he was formerly of Louisiana. He was nominated by Mr. Boyd, of Kentucky. If he is

